

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 04-04-17

Issued at Dillingham, Alaska
July 28, 2017

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.
August 1, 2017

Expiration Date: June 30, 2018
unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order opens that portion of the RC501 registration permit hunt for caribou in portions of Game Management Units 17(A) and 17(C) north of the Igushik River at 12:01 a.m., August 1, 2017. The season will run through March 31, 2018. The bag limit for caribou under the RC501 permit is two caribou. Hunters are reminded that only two caribou per regulatory year can be taken under a state permit in Unit 17.

Permits will be available online at <http://hunt.alaska.gov> or in person at department offices in Anchorage, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Homer, King Salmon, Palmer, and Soldotna.

All other caribou hunting regulations for Unit 17 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5AAC 85.025(12), Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits for Caribou**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(12)

Unit 17(A), all drainages that
Terminate east of Right Hand

Point, but not including the Nushagak Peninsula south of the Igushik River, Tuklung River and the Tuklung Hills, west to Tvativak Bay

Resident Hunters:

2 caribou may be taken during the season to be announced by emergency order by registration permit only

August 1 – March 31

Nonresident Hunters:

No Open Season

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Remainder of Unit 17(C), but not including the Nushagak Peninsula south of the Igushik River, Tuklung River and the Tuklung Hills, west to Tvativak Bay

Resident Hunters:

2 caribou may be taken during the season to be announced by emergency order by registration permit only

August 1 – March 31

Nonresident Hunters:

No Open Season

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All other caribou hunting regulations remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Neil Barten
Dillingham Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The RC501 permit area includes the ranges of two caribou herds – the Nushagak Peninsula herd and the Mulchatna herd. In spring and fall of 2016, the federal hunt area within the Nushagak Peninsula was opened to hunters using the RC501 permit in an effort to increase harvest and lower the population of the Nushagak Peninsula herd, which exceeded objectives. With a reported harvest in this area of 371 caribou during fall 2016 and spring 2017, the population estimate declined from 1,250 in 2016 to 968 in 2017. The Nushagak Peninsula herd is now closer to the optimum level of 750 and these federal lands and adjacent private lands south of the Igushik River will not be opened under this state permit. Opportunity will still be available on the north side of the Igushik River in the remainder of the RC501 hunt area where some animals from both the Nushagak Peninsula herd and the Mulchatna herd may be encountered.

DISTRIBUTION:

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 - Regional Supervisors
 - Area Biologists (Statewide)
 - Regulatory Coordinator, Information Management
5. Boards Support Section, Executive Director Board of Game
 - Field Offices: Bethel, Dillingham
 - Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Chairman
 - Nushagak Fish and Game Advisory Committee
 - Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee
6. Division of Subsistence, Anchorage Regional Supervisor
7. Public Communications, ADF&G, Juneau, Anchorage
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9. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Regional Director, Anchorage
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